IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs of the specification as follows:

On page 5, please replace the paragraph starting on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

At a receiver unit 130, the transmitted signal is received by an antenna 132 and provided to a receiver 134. Within the receiver [134] 134, the signal is amplified, filtered, frequency downconverted, quadrature demodulated, and digitized to provide inphase (I) and quadrature (Q) samples. The samples may be digitally processed and then provided to a receiver data processor 136 that further processes and decodes the samples to recover the transmitted data. The processing and decoding at the receiver data processor 136 are performed in a manner complementary to the processing and encoding performed at transmitter data processor 114. The decoded data is then provided to a data sink 138.

On page 6, please replace the paragraph starting on line 15 with the following amended paragraph which removes unnecessary spacing:

Since the pilot sequence of the transmission y(k) is non-zero and known, the real component of the bias α_{re} can be estimated. By way of example, assuming that y(k) and w(k) are uncorrelated, one could compute the following statistic:

$$\hat{\alpha}_{re} = \mathrm{Re}\left\{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=1}^{N}\frac{\hat{y}(k)}{y(k)}\right\} \qquad (2)$$

where N represents the number of pilot symbols.

On page 9, please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

An exemplary HDR communications system employing a variable rate data request scheme is shown in FIG. 3. The exemplary HDR communications system 300 includes a subscriber station 302 in communication with a land-based data network 304 by transmitting data on a reverse link to a base station 306. The base station 306 receives the data and routes the data through a base station controller (BSC) 308 to the land-based network 304. Conversely, communications to the subscriber station 302 can be routed from the land-based network 304 to the base station 306 via the BSC 308 and transmitted from the base station 306 to the subscriber [unit] station 302 on a forward link. The forward link refers to the transmission from the base station to the subscriber station and the reverse link refers to the transmission from the subscriber station to the base station.

On page 9, please replace the paragraph starting on line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

The communications system shown in FIG. 3 depicts a single base station 306 in communication with a single subscriber [unit] station 302 for ease of explanation. As those skilled in the art will appreciate, the forward link transmission can occur between the base station and one or more subscriber stations. Similarly, the reverse link transmission can occur between one subscriber station and one or more base stations.

On page 12, please replace the paragraph starting on line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

The forward link pilot channel provides a pilot signal which can be used by the subscriber station 302 for initial acquisition, phase recovery, timing recovery, and ratio combining. In addition, the pilot signal can also used by subscriber station 302 to perform the C/I measurement. A diagram illustrating the forward link pilot signal is shown in FIG. 5. In the described exemplary embodiment, each time slot 500 is 2048 chips long with two pilot bursts [502a] 502A and [502b] 502B occurring at the end of the first and third quarters of the time slot. Each pilot burst 502 is 96 chips in duration.